

Testimony of Anthony M. Soter I.B.E.W. local 488

Before the General Law Committee

Proposed Bill 6337

Clarifying Scope of Solar Electrical Work

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborask, And members of the general law committee my name is Anthony Soter a member of local 488 and a member who sits on the electrical licensing Board. I would like to submit testimony in opposition to raised bill 6337.

With 11,000 plus licensed electricians in the state of Connecticut whose license covers up to 13,000 volts and whose training covers 8,000 hours of on the job training and over 700 hours of schooling to sit for their test I do not feel PV1 and PV2 licenses have the training and knowledge to be able to work in existing electrical systems.

Please do not look at solar electrical work as a small electrical system as they can be very extensive with many circuits and requires knowledge of the whole electrical code.

As a member who sits on the electrical licensing board I see many people come before the board for consideration to sit for various test ranging from T1/T2, C5/C6, L5/L6 all of which are limited licenses. With the passage of this bill you will give PV1/PV2 license holders the same working capability of an E1/E2 with half the training and schooling.

The need for renewable energy is at our doorstep and the need for only the most highly trained and licensed people should be doing a complete installation. The 4000 hours of on the job training and 288 hours of classroom hours the PV1/PV2 receives does not make them qualified electricians only solar photovoltaic installers.

Sincerely,

Anthony M. Soter

I.B.E.W. Local 488